(c) The work is expected to be completed during the 9th five year plan subejct to availability of resources.

Concept for introduction of Rajdhani Expresses

1529. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether basic concept for introduction of Rajdhani expresses was to connect all State Capitals/UTs with New Delhi.

(b) if so, the details of Capitals connected so far independently;

(c) whether State Capitals of NE Region have been connected by only one Rajdhani Express, running thrice a week to Guwahati, which also carries passengers of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal and Sikkim;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the plan of the Ministry of increase frequency and capacity of Guwahati bound Rajdhani Express?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) Subejct to feasibility and commercial viability, Rajdhani Expresses have been introduced to connect State Capitals with Union Capital.

(b) Jammu, Ahmedabad, Mumbai, Bangalore, Trivandrum, Chennai, Secunderabad, Bhubaneswar, Calcutta, Patna & Guwahati.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. However, 2435/2436 New Delhi-Guwahati Rajdhani Express (bi-weekly) is being introduced w.e.f. 11.1.1999. With this, Guwahati will be served by Rajdhani services on five days a week.

New train service between Indore and Ahmedabad

1530. SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a meeting was hald between the Chief Minsiter of Gujarat and the Minister of Railways for starting a new train service between Indore and Ahmedabad, *via* Khandwa/Bhopal/Ratlam/Ujjain, etc.;

(b) whether it is also a fact that he gave an assurance for starting the train service soon; and

(c) if so, by whan the proposal would materialise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) to (c) Several requests including from Chief Minister, Gujarat have been received for introduction of a train between Indore and Ahmedabad. The matter has been examined but not found feasible due to operational and resource constraints.

Introduction of a train between Indore and Ahmedabad *via* Khandwa-Itarsi-Bhopal-Ujjain-Ratlam is not operationally feasible due to gauge variation as Indore-Khandwa section is Metre Gauge and Khandwa-Itarsi-Bhopal-Ujjain-Ratlam is a Broad Gauge section.

Containers missing from Tughlakabad Depot

1531. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how many containers containing import consignment have reported missing from Inland Container Depot of